

## Shrewsbury Commission on Disabilities

### Minutes December 9, 2003

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by Chairperson Gail Sokolowski in Meeting Room A. Those present were Ms. Sokolowski, Jerry Berrier, Emily Gerber, and John Harris. The ADA coordinator, Mr. Morgado was at another meeting. Assistant Town Manager Michael Hale came in his place.

A motion to accept minutes of November 18, 2003 meeting was made by Mr. Berrier and seconded by Mr. Harris.

Assistant Town Manager, Michael Hale stated that very soon the projects at the Town Office Building would be underway. The monies for this were appropriated at Town Meeting but there has been a delay in getting the work started due to the fact that the Superintendent of Public Buildings, Bob Cox, has been very busy. Mr. Hale suggested that we think about what we want to do for our upcoming budget. There was some discussion on the upcoming hearing for the licensing of Moe's Southwestern Grill. Mr. Harris expressed his concern that there might be a problem with accessible parking. Mr. Harris also asked about progress on installing the van accessible space at the Town Office Building and Mr. Hale stated that he had discussed this with Mr. Morgado and it was in the works. Mr. Morgado had informed Ms. Sokolowski that he had received no complaints over the last month.

We had a lengthy discussion on the layout of the parking at Moe's Southwestern Grill and also some discussion on Hogs & Rods. It was decided that since Hogs & Rods only has 12 parking spaces and there are steps to get into the building and no major renovations are proposed that we would have no issues with their application

Questions/comments/announcements:

None

No bills.

New business:

License applications have been received for the new Dunkin Donuts at 32-36 Maple Ave., Rt. 9 Auto Gallery at 421 Boston Turnpike, Hogs & Rods at 295 Hartford Turnpike and a change of manager at Frohsinn Club.

Meeting schedule for 2004.

After much discussion a motion was made by Mr. Berrier and seconded by Ms. Gerber to cancel our meeting in January unless some earth shattering business came up. All voted in favor.

Ms. Sokolowski suggested a month by month schedule of items we want to work on. She suggested twice yearly put a notice on cable TV regarding E-911 Disability Indicator Program. Every four months put a small piece on cable TV to use handicapped parking spaces responsibly. Some discussion followed and the wording "Respect handicapped parking regulations" was decided upon.

Do we want to do something with the emergency preparedness information that Mr. Berrier e-mailed to members? Maybe have the person in charge of that committee come to our meeting and explain the towns plan.

Ms. Sokolowski suggested that we do a presentation once a year for informational purposes to the public.

Mr. Harris suggested that we start thinking about what accessibility issues we would like addressed in the upcoming fiscal year if we again get approved for monies at Town Meeting.

We decided to request level funding for our budget at \$500.00.

Ms. Sokolowski suggested printing copies of the ADA guidelines and distributing them to local businesses. Mr. Harris suggested hand delivering to each business. Mr. Berrier mentioned that it might be hard to see the person in charge. Ms. Gerber mentioned that we might want to have someone from the Police Department give a presentation. Ms. Gerber also mentioned that we might want to involve some of the people who have come to us with complaints in a presentation.

Mention was made of participating in the Spirit of Shrewsbury Fall Festival and Ms. Gerber voiced her displeasure in the fact that two out of the last three years this event was held during the Jewish Holiday period. Mr. Berrier suggested that we look for a better venue than the Fall Festival since we had such poor response to our table when we were there. Ms. Sokolowski suggested that we send a reminder about making temporary handicapped parking spaces available again this year and also gave kudos to Angela Snell for arranging them last year both at the common and at Dean Park. Ms. Gerber suggested that maybe we could have a picnic among ourselves just for something fun to do and to get to know each other better. There was some discussion as to whether all of us getting together would constitute a meeting and need to be posted. It was decided that we could post it if this event takes place. We again discussed delivering ADA guidelines to businesses and decided that we should wait until warmer weather. Also that we might want to bring some envelopes along to place the information in if the owner/manager is not at the location. Ms Sokolowski will get a price for printing 100 of the guidelines. Annual presentation meeting in October? Keep on agenda as ongoing business

Old Business:

Communications:

Center for Living and Working sent out notification of their annual meeting and a contact for anyone interested in having a personal safety survey done.

Vanguard ADA Systems of America sent information about federal mandate of detectable warning (truncated domes). We will send a copy to Engineering and Buildings.

Next meeting February 10, 2004 in Meeting Room A.

Meeting adjourned made by Mr. Berrier and seconded by Mr. Harris at 8:17 pm. Voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

John Harris  
Secretary